

ITEM: 13

SUBJECT: Site-Specific Temperature Objectives for Deer Creek in El Dorado and Sacramento Counties – *Consideration of a Modification to Resolution No. R5-2003-0006 that Adopted the Site-Specific Temperature Objectives into the Water Quality Control Plan for the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River Basins*

BOARD ACTION: Board hearing to correct a previously adopted but not yet approved basin plan amendment.

BACKGROUND: The Basin Plan requires that temperature changes due to controllable factors be limited to 5°F. The Board found that Deer Creek’s naturally fluctuating temperatures made compliance with this objective infeasible. On 31 January 2003, the Board adopted site-specific temperature objectives based on site-specific data regarding the resident populations and current science on the effects of temperature on the beneficial uses of Deer Creek.

Before an amendment can become effective, it must be approved by the State Board, the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) and the US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The State Board approved this amendment on 19 February 2004 and OAL approved this amendment on 11 March 2005. On 15 March 2005, the State Board submitted the amendment to the USEPA for approval. As of this date, the USEPA has not acted on this amendment.

A correction to the proposed basin plan amendment language was supposed to be included at the time that the Board considered Resolution No. R5-2003-0006. The correction would have changed the applicability of the site-specific temperature amendment from “discharges” to “controllable factors.” The wording change was an oversight at the time Resolution No. R5-2003-0006.

ISSUES: The proposed correction is necessary to clarify the application of the temperature objections.

Mgmt. Review _____
Legal Review _____

15/16 September 2005 Region 5 Board Meeting
Regional Water Quality Control Board
11020 Sun Center Dr. #200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670